REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this Application and stand rejected. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-11, and 13 have been amended. Claims 15-20 are new. In view of those amendments and the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's thoughtful reconsideration.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS:

The Examiner objected to Claims 3 and 4. Those claims have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC §103:

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, and 13 were rejected as being anticipated by USPN 5, 486, 899 issued to Iimori in view of USPN 5,579,088 issued to Ko.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for verifying authenticity of a replaceable printing component. As amended, Claim 1 recites the following acts:

1. encrypting a data value stored on the replaceable printing component using a selected encryption technique to produce second encrypted data value; and
2. comparing the second encrypted data value with a first encrypted data value stored on the replaceable consumable whereby the replaceable printing component is authentic if the first and second encrypted data values are identical.

Prior to its amendment, Claim 1 recited comparing an encrypted value with an authentication value stored on the replaceable consumable. As amended Claim 1 recites comparing the first encrypted data value with a second encrypted data value stored on the replaceable consumable. The Examiner asserts that Iimori teaches all the acts of Claim 1 – except that the reference failed to teach that the authentication value is stored on the replaceable consumable. Addressing this deficiency, the Examiner relied on Ko which discloses an identification code stored in a memory

(26) associated with a copier's developing unit (24). *See* Ko, col. 4, lines 8-44. Ko's identification code is supplied by a user and is not encrypted. The Examiner equated Ko's identification code with an authentication value.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite comparing the first encrypted data value with a second encrypted data value stored on the replaceable consumable. Neither Iimori nor Ko teaches a first encrypted data value stored on a replaceable consumable. Ko's identification code is not an encrypted data value. Consequently, the references fail to teach or suggest comparing the second encrypted data value with a first encrypted data value stored on the replaceable consumable.

For at least these reasons, Claim 1 is patentable over the cited references as are Claims 2 and 3 due at least in part to their dependency from Claim 1.

Claim 4 is directed to a method for storing a data value in an electrical storage device for use with a replaceable printing component. As amended Claim 4 recites the following acts:

1. encrypting the data value using a selected encryption technique to produce a first encrypted data value; and
2. storing each of the data value and the first encrypted data value on the electrical storage device.

Prior to its amendment, Claim 4 recited storing each of the data value and the authentication value on the electrical storage device. The Examiner admits that Iimori does not teach storing an authentication value on the electrical storage device. Addressing this deficiency, the Examiner relied on Ko which discloses an identification code on a replaceable consumable. The Examiner equated Ko's identification code with an authentication value.

Claim 4 has been amended to recite storing each of the data value and the first encrypted data value on the electrical storage device. Neither Iimori nor Ko teaches storing a first encrypted data value stored on an electrical storage device. Ko's identification code is not an encrypted data value nor is it produced from encrypting a data value that is also stored on the electrical storage device. Ko's

identification code is supplied by a user and is not produced by encrypting data stored in the memory (26) associated with Ko's developing unit (24). For at least these reasons, Claim 4 is patentable over the cited references as are Claims 5-10 due at least in part to their dependency from Claim 1.

Claim 11 is directed to a method for customizing a replaceable printing component for use in only selected printing systems. The replaceable printing component has an electrical storage device for storing data in a first portion of the electrical storage device. As amended, Claim 11 recites:

1. storing a first encrypted data value in a second portion of the electrical storage device;
2. the first encrypted data value derived from encrypting a data value from the first portion using an encryption technique
3. whereby prior to use of the replaceable printing component in the selected printing system requires that a resulting second encryption data value from encryption of the data value using the encryption technique match the first encryption data value stored in the second portion of the electrical storage device

As clarified with respect to Claim 4, Neither Ko nor Iimori teach or suggest storing a first encrypted data value in a portion of an electrical storage device that also stores a data value from which the encrypted data value was derived. For at least this reason, Claim 11 is patentable over the cited references as is Claim 12 which depends from Claim 11.

Claim 13 is directed to a replaceable printing component for use in a selected printing system. The replaceable printing component includes:

1. an electrical storage device configured for storing a data value and first encrypted data value derived by encrypting the data value using an encryption process;

2. whereby upon installation of the replaceable printing component into the selected printing system the selected printing system processes the data value using the encryption process to obtain second encrypted data value that is identical to the first encrypted data value if the replaceable printing component is a verified replaceable printing component.

As clarified with respect to Claim 4, Neither Ko nor Iimori teach or suggest an electrical storage device configured for storing a data value and first encrypted data value derived by encrypting the data value using an encryption process. For at least this reason, Claim 13 is patentable over the cited references as is Claim 14 which depends from Claim 13.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC §103:

Claims 2, 5, 10, 12, and 14 were rejected as being anticipated by USPN 5, 486, 899 issued to Iimori in view of USPN 5,579,088 issued to Ko in further view of USPN 6,351,618 issued to Pollocks.

Claim 2 depends from Claim 1 and includes all the limitations of that base claim. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, Claim 2 is also patentable over the cited references.

Claim 5 depends from Claim 4 and includes all the limitations of that base claim. For at least the same reasons Claim 4 is patentable, Claim 5 is also patentable over the cited references.

Claim 10 ultimately depends from claim 4 and includes all the limitations of that base claim. For at least the same reasons Claim 4 is patentable, Claim 10 is also patentable over the cited references.

Claim 12 depends from Claim 11 and includes all the limitations of that base claim. For at least the same reasons Claim 11 is patentable, Claim 12 is also patentable over the cited references.

Claim 14 depends from Claim 13 and includes all the limitations of that base claim. For at least the same reasons Claim 13 is patentable, Claim 14 is also patentable over the cited references.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC §103:

Claims 7 was rejected as being anticipated by USPN 5, 486, 899 issued to Iimori in view of USPN 5,579,088 issued to Ko in further view of USPN 5,200,993 issued to Wheeler.

Claim 7 depends from Claim 4 and includes all the limitations of that base claim. For at least the same reasons Claim 4 is patentable, Claim 7 is also patentable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-14 are felt to be in condition for allowance. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing the application to issue is earnestly solicited. The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,
Marc L. Covitt

By _____
Jack H. McKinney
Reg. No. 45,685

1/4/2006